for his and my correspondence against the strict orders of the embargo, which is laid for two months upon all the posts, either to prevent any accounts reaching England of the tenure of the elections, or of the projected invasions.

All seems harmony and quiet in the elections, but great and barefaced corruption in the legislature. Little Caraccioli, Lucchesis' secretary, is come here to prepare the way for Commander Rufo, the Neapolitan envoy, who is in London on his road hither, Caraccioli is called *La Conscience de Fortalis.*

You must know that my work here has given me a vast insight into a variety of official routine and political matters, and I begin to think I should make a good working minister of State. My style in French is approved of, in these days of freedom of style, as being energetic and original.

I am rather sanguine as to a prolongation of my political life; first, because I and my merits are now personally known to the King! He has a good memory, and when he takes a liking or a good opinion, is very pertinacious. Secondly,

because my being employed as negotiator begins to be a general idea here among all parties; and you know how much the French of all classes are governed by general opinion.